Since there is no evidence of higher prevalence of disability in the tribal areas of Central India, no such study has been undertaken.

Protection of dalits

†1466. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Human Rights Monitoring Organisation has recently published **a** report stating that India has failed to give protection to the dalits under the international laws;

(b) whether Central Government are aware of this report, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Central Government are taking any steps in the matter, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No such organizations has set report to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Construction of hostels for SC boys and girls

1467. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal from Government of Gujarat for sanction of 50 per cent central assistance for the construction of Babu Jagjivan Ram Hostels and residential schools for SC boys and girls under centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) if so, the present status of these proposals; and

(c) by when the Central finance assistance will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

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†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) and (c) This Ministry has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 109.56 lakhs for construction of one hostel each at Babu Jagjivanram Pratisthan (Govt. Girls Hostel), Junagarh and Babu Jagjivanram Pratisthan (Govt. Girls Hostel) at Mehsana during 2006-07. Other proposals from Govt. of Gujarat were found to be incomplete.

Pending developmental projects

1468. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is contemplating any measures for expeditious clearance of pending developmental projects referred to his Ministry of approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has received request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for clearance of Indira Sagar Project (Polavaram Project);

(d) if so, by when the project would be accorded with necessary clearance; and

(e) the rationale behind the delay, if any?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PR. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tribal Affairs is concerned with clearance of "Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plans for Scheduled Tribe Project Affected Families (ST RAFs)" of the irrigation projects displacing people. The Ministry has set norms for the purpose of examination of such R&R Plans. Forgetting clearance, the concerned State Government/project authority is required to submit complete information in accordance with provisions of National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation (NPRR) 2003 and also where the displacement relates to Scheduled Areas, the details of prior consultations with affected gram sabhas according to the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. As soon as the complete information is received, the proposals are processed by the Ministry for clearance.